

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BAMA KO 04431 071727Z

66

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 NEA-10 ISO-00 OES-06 FEA-01 INT-05 EUR-12

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 ERDA-05 NRC-05 EB-07 /074 W

----- 029798

R 071659Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY BAMA KO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5259

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BAMA KO 4431

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ML EMIN JA

SUBJECT: JAPANESE URANIUM PROSPECTING IN MALI

REF: (A) BAMA KO 550, (B) BAMA KO 2827

1. DCM AND MALI DESK OFFICER KILLION TALKED DEC. 2 IN GAO WITH BRITISH GEOPHYSICIST AND OTHERS CONNECTED WITH JAPANESE NPC (NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION) TEAM OPERATING IN NORTHEASTERN MALI BETWEEN GAO AND ALGERIAN BORDER. (ASSUME THIS IS AREA---KIDAL, TESSALIT, BOURESSA--MENTIONED PARA 3 REF B.) ACCORDING TO ABOVE SOURCES, THERE ARE NOW 12 JAPANESE WORKING OUT OF TESSALIT USING TWO-ENGINE AIRCRAFT DESIGNED FOR GEOLOGICAL EXPLORATION, WITH ON-SITE FOLLOW-UP BY 7-8 TRUCKS. A SUBSIDIARY SUPPORT BASE IS IN KIDAL, ROUGHLY MIDWAY BETWEEN GAO AND TESSALIT.

2. IN SEPARATE CONVERSATION WITH DCM AND KILLION, JAPANESE HEAD OF OPERATION (TOMOSHIGE OR TAMASHIGE), WHO WORKS OUT OF GAO, CLAIMED TO HAVE SERVICED WITH JAPANESE FOREIGN MINISTRY ON COOPERATION MATTERS. HE PROMISED TO CALL ON DCM DURING NEXT TRIP TO BAMA KO.

3. BRITISH GEOPHYSICIST, WHILE RELUCTANT TO DISCUSS FINDINGS OR AREAS IN WHICH HE WAS WORKING, SAID JAPANESE ARE OPTIMISTIC AND BELIEVE PROSPECTS ARE EXCELLENT BOTH IN TERMS OF URANIUM DEPOSITS AS WELL
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PAGE 02 BAMA KO 04431 071727Z

AS MALIAN WILLINGNESS TO HAVE JAPANESE (OR ANYBODY ELSE)

DEVELOP THESE RESOURCES.

BYRNE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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